

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 21, 22, 25-28, 30, 32-35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45-61, 67-70, and 74-76 are pending in the application. Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the recitation in the Office Action that these claims are allowed.

Claims 5-7, 10, 12-14, 16-20, 62-66, 72, 73, 77-86, and 89-91 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a subsequent continuation, continuation-in-part, or divisional application.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to their representatives, Craig L. Puckett, Reg. No. 43,023, and Gina R. Gencarelli, Reg. No. 59,729, during the interview with Examiner Taylor V. Oh conducted on February 20, 2007. The substance of the interview and the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are included in the comments below.

Claims 5-7, 19-20, and 89-91 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Chinese Patent No. 1113234 to Guosheng, et al ("CN '234"). This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of the claims.

Claims 62-66 and 89-91 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.K. Publication No. 2 153 821 to Coates, et al ("GB '821"). This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of the claims.

Claims 72-73 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by MERCK INDEX, 12th ed., p. 6977. This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of the claims.

Claims 5-7, 10, 12-14, 16-20, 72-73, 77-86, and 89-91 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over CN '234, GB '821, or EP 0 415 522 to Collin, et al. in view of Llacer, et al., *International Journal of Pharmaceutics*, 177 (1999), pp. 221-229. These rejections have been rendered moot by the cancellation of the claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. If any outstanding issues remain, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below to discuss the same. No fee is believed to be due for the submission of this

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response. Should any fees be required, please charge such fees to Kenyon & Kenyon
LLP Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 5, 2007

By: *Gina R. Gencarelli*
Gina R. Gencarelli
Reg. No. 59,729

KENYON & KENYON LLP
One Broadway
New York, NY 10004
Direct dial: 212-908-6034
Fax: 212-425-5288